‘The Shape of Water’ compelling and irresistible

★★★★½ MOVIES, 1D

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017 azcentral.com PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., announced his decision to quit the House of Representatives after eight terms. CLIFF OWEN/AP

Franks to resign

Citing U.S. House’s probe of his ‘discussion of surrogacy’ with female staffers, GOP congressman says he’ll step down Jan. 31

Ronald J. Hansen, Yvonne Wingett Sanchez, Eliza Collins and Dan Nowicki
Arizona Republic | USA TODAY NETWORK

Rep. Trent Franks, the dean of Arizona’s House Republicans, announced Thursday he is stepping down after learning the House Ethics Committee was investigating him for sexual harassment involving two “previous female subordinates.”

In a lengthy written statement, Franks said he and his wife have struggled with infertility, and that his “discussion of surrogacy” with the two women while in the workplace had “caused distress.”

See FRANKS, Page 6A

Republic editorial

It’s Washington’s turn for a reckoning. **18A**

Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., leaves the Capitol after his speech Thursday. AP

Franken announces resignation, lobs barbs at Trump, Republicans

Sen. Al Franken, a rising political star only weeks ago, reluctantly announced Thursday that he’s resigning from Congress, succumbing to a torrent of sexual-harassment allegations and evaporating support from fellow Democrats. But he fired a defiant parting shot at President Donald Trump and other Republicans he said have survived much-worse accusations. **1B**

USA TODAY

ACLU: Ariz. can’t ban boycotts of Israel

Ryan Randazzo Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

The American Civil Liberties Union on Thursday sued Arizona over a law that prevents companies that contract with the state from boycotting Israel.

The ACLU said the state law, enacted in 2016, violates the First Amendment. It filed the complaint in U.S. District Court in Phoenix.

The lawsuit comes a day after President Donald Trump declared the United States would recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. ACLU officials said the complaint was in the works before that announcement.

It was filed on behalf of Mikkel Jordahl, a Sedona attorney who personally boycotts goods and services from businesses that support Israel’s occupation of Palestinian territories. Jordahl contracts with the Coconino County Jail District to give legal advice to inmates.

The ACLU is arguing that the state law compels political speech and prevents Jordahl’s law firm from participating in a boycott that is protected speech.

To renew his contract with Coconino County, Jordahl would have to certify

See ACLU, Page 10A

Ex-officer acquitted of murder

Brailsford shot unarmed man at Mesa hotel in ’16

Uriel J. Garcia Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Maricopa County jury on Thursday found former Mesa police Officer Philip “Mitch” Brailsford not guilty of second-degree murder charges in the 2016 shooting of an unarmed Texas man who was on his knees, begging for his life.

Jurors deliberated for less than six hours over two days, finishing Thursday afternoon. The eight-member jury also found Brailsford not guilty of the lesser charge of reckless manslaughter.

The packed courtroom in Maricopa County Superior Court was quiet after one of Judge George Foster’s clerks read the verdict.

Brailsford was one of two officers in Arizona since 2005 who had been charged with murder in connection with an on-duty shooting.

The case ends during a time when on-duty police shootings have received heightened scrutiny. Some shootings, particularly those recorded on video,

See ACQUITTED, Page 6A

Katie Roper and son Tristin, 11, at a Thursday vigil. TOM TINGLE/THE REPUBLIC

N.M. student shares story of shooting

Kaila White Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

AZTEC, N.M. — Students hid in their classrooms, some behind locked doors or in closets, as a gunman opened fire Thursday inside a high school in rural northwestern New Mexico, killing two classmates before he ended up dead.

Authorities and other officials in the small town of Aztec, near the Colorado border, have released few details other than to say the shooter and two victims attended Aztec High School.

No other injuries were reported, and it was not clear if the shooter died by suicide or was killed by police.

Mikala Rezac moved to remote Az-

See SHOOTING, Page 13A

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHT PAGE 3A

Gov. Doug Ducey presents a memorial wreath on behalf of the state of Arizona on Wednesday for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day at Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza in Phoenix. NICK OZA/THE REPUBLIC

D-Backs, county hold secret Chase Field talks

The Arizona Diamondbacks and Maricopa County are talking behind closed doors over the team’s request to move out of Chase Field, leaving taxpayers without an immediate window into talks that could affect as much as $187 million in stadium repairs. A judge ordered the private mediation last month. **3A**

Death penalty pursued

Prosecutors plan to seek the death penalty against a former bus driver charged in a string of nighttime shootings in Phoenix that left nine people dead. **4A**

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